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13 June 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Basic and Geographic Intelligence

THROUGH

: Chief, Geography Division/OBGI

SUBJECT

: OSI Meeting on Desert Locust Threat

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Chief, OSI/ISD, informed me this morning that on Monday at 1000 hours he is calling together selected Agency personnel to discuss the desert locust situation. He requested that I be present. An authority on desert locusts, Dr. Joseph W. Gentry, Plant Pest Control Division, Department of Agriculture, will be present to provide technical guidance.

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- 2. interest in locusts is directly related to the interest of the Secretary of the Air Force in locusts and the possibility that the Air Force may be called upon to support locust control activities.
- 3. A high ranking Air Force Staff Officer noted the item concerning locusts in the C.I.B. of 23 May 1968. He contacted the Secretary and expressed concern that intelligence channels had not provided proper lead time to prepare for possible Air Force field activities. The Secretary turned to the USIB. The Scientific Intelligence Committee was alerted and requested that Chairman of the Biological-Medical Intelligence Subcommittee, investigate the extent of the present threat.

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4. I will keep you informed of the activity of this group and of the support it may need from OBGI.

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Acting Chief
Near East/Africa Branch, OBGI

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